

ROBERT MENENDEZ
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN
AFFAIRS
FINANCE
FOREIGN RELATIONS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3005

528 SENATE HART OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-4744

ONE GATEWAY CENTER
11TH FLOOR
NEWARK, NJ 07102
(973) 645-3030

208 WHITE HORSE PIKE
SUITE 18-19
BARRINGTON, NJ 08007
(856) 757-5353

February 4, 2019

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

The Honorable Kirstjen Nielsen
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Director Wray and Secretary Nielsen:

On January 29, 2019, I met with four individuals and their attorney who have credibly alleged that serious crimes occurred at the Trump National Golf Club in both Bedminster, New Jersey, and Westchester County, New York. Given the serious nature of these allegations, I bring this to your attention and request that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) conduct an appropriate investigation into the matter. Furthermore, because the individuals I met with and others that may step forward appear to be potential witnesses to a crime and may provide the evidence necessary to conduct an appropriate investigation, I urge you to consider requesting or supporting authorization for them to remain in the U.S. during your necessary investigation.

The New York Times reported on December 6, 2018, that the Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, New Jersey, employed undocumented workers.¹ The brave undocumented employees that came forward – and who were subsequently fired from their positions – stated that supervisors at the club knew of their immigration status and helped the workers evade detection. The workers also allege the Golf Club provided and facilitated obtaining false documents, and even transported the employees to work daily.² Furthermore, on January 18, 2019, The Trump National Golf Club in Westchester County, New York, fired a dozen

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/06/us/trump-bedminster-golf-undocumented-workers.html>

² Ibid.

employees because – according to their attorney – they were undocumented immigrants, even though some of the workers had been employed for over fifteen years.³ The workers I met with describe a hostile environment where they were verbally abused and threatened.⁴ Given the serious nature of these allegations, I request that the FBI/HSI immediately open an investigation regarding the Trump National Golf Clubs.

Additionally, law enforcement agencies working with a potential witness to a crime have tools at their disposal to assist in their investigation and may request – or support requests – for immigration or other authorized status, such as continued presence, deferred action, U or T visas, or any other appropriate relief. Attorney Anibal Romero represents the individuals I met with and I strongly urge you to work with him to assess the best approach regarding the status of these immigrants to ensure these potential witnesses are available to assist in the appropriate investigations.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez
United States Senator

³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/donald-trumps-demand-for-a-border-wall-shut-down-the-government-at-the-same-time-his-company-was-firing-undocumented-workers/2019/01/26/8cf75d66-20c5-11e9-8e21-59a09ff1e2a1_story.html?utm_term=.2e74466121d0

⁴ <https://www.northjersey.com/story/news/new-jersey/2018/12/14/nj-attorney-general-investigating-trumps-national-golf-club-report/2313632002/>